

Remarks

Claims 1 to 28, 31 to 33, and 35 are in the application. Claims 1 to 28, 31 to 33, and 35 have been made the subject of a restriction requirement.

Restriction Requirement Under 35 U.S.C. § 121 and 372

Applicants traverse the restriction. In particular, Group I (claims 1-20) and Group IV (claims 32-33) of the present restriction requirement each contain claims that are directed to polynucleotides. Thus, Applicants submit that Groups I and IV should be merged into one group without placing any significant burden on the Examiner for searches. Nevertheless, in the interest of advancing the prosecution of this case, Applicants wish to make a provisional election at this time of Group I, claims 1-20.

The Applicants reserve the right to prosecute, in one or more patent applications, the canceled claims, the claims to non-elected inventions, the claims as originally filed, and any other claims supported by the specification. If it would expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to confer with the Applicants' undersigned agent. If any additional fees or charges are required by this paper the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit account 19-2570 accordingly.

Respectfully submitted,

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